

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1972 - 1973

15 February 1973

DOCUMENT 310/72

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar

on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the
Council (Doc. 309/72) for

- I. a regulation temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Associated African States and Madagascar or in the overseas countries and territories
- II. a regulation temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Republics of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya.

Rapporteur: Mr M. DEWULF

By letter of 14 February 1973, the European Parliament was consulted by the Council of the Communities, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty on:

- a proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Associated African States and Madagascar or in the overseas countries and territories;
- a proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Republics of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya (Doc. COM(73) 213 final).

On the same date, this document was referred to the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion.

The Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar examined these proposals at its meeting of 14 February 1973.

At the same meeting it appointed Mr Dewulf rapporteur and subsequently adopted the motion for a resolution by 5 votes in favour with 2 abstentions.

The following were present: Mr Fellermaier, acting chairman; Mr Dewulf, second vice-chairman and rapporteur; Mr Aigner, Mr Bersani, Mr Dich, Mr Reay, Mr Seefeld.

1. The first of these is the fact that the system is not a simple one, but a complex one, involving many different factors.

2. The second is the fact that the system is not a static one, but a dynamic one, involving many different factors.

3. The third is the fact that the system is not a homogeneous one, but a heterogeneous one, involving many different factors.

4. The fourth is the fact that the system is not a uniform one, but a non-uniform one, involving many different factors.

5. The fifth is the fact that the system is not a simple one, but a complex one, involving many different factors.

6. The sixth is the fact that the system is not a static one, but a dynamic one, involving many different factors.

7. The seventh is the fact that the system is not a homogeneous one, but a heterogeneous one, involving many different factors.

8. The eighth is the fact that the system is not a uniform one, but a non-uniform one, involving many different factors.

The Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar hereby submits the following motion for a resolution to the European Parliament:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for

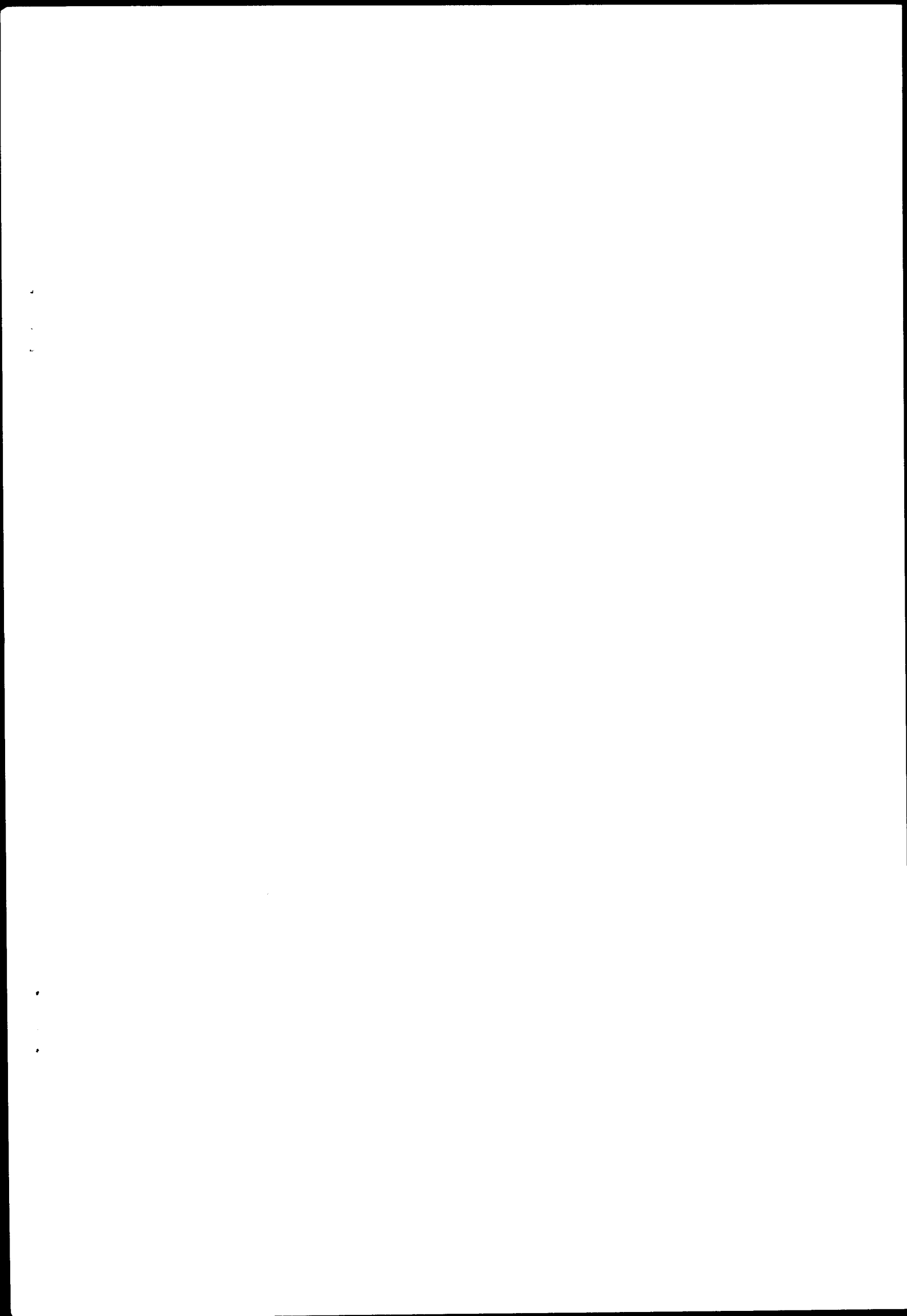
- I - a regulation temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Associated African States and Madagascar or in the overseas countries and territories;
- II - a regulation temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Republics of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM (73) 213 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the Treaty establishing the EEC (Doc. 309/72),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar and to the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 310/72),
1. Recalls that, on the recommendation of its Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar and of its Committee on Agriculture, the European Parliament unanimously approved on 17 December 1971¹ the Commission's proposals for the abovementioned products originating in the AASM, overseas countries and territories and East African countries to be freely imported into the Community throughout the year with exemption from customs duty;
 2. Notes that the relevant regulations adopted by the Council of the European Communities on 25 April 1972 nevertheless provide for these products to be subject to customs duties for certain periods of the year;

¹ OJ C 2 11.1.1972, p. 36

3. Stresses the need for a more cohesive development policy in the Community which cannot encourage the production of certain varieties of fruit and vegetables in the associated States through its financial and technical assistance, while at the same time impeding sales of these products;
4. Stresses that, in comparison with imports from third countries, the quantities involved here are very small and could under no circumstances prejudice Community agriculture, whereas the psychological damage to the Community's image will be considerable;
5. Regrets that the Commission has provisionally opted for the second resolution, which is the less favourable to the AASM, put forward by Mr Rey, the intermediary in this matter between the EEC and AASM, believing that it should have maintained its original proposal, accompanied if necessary, in conformity with the first solution put forward by Mr Rey, by a safeguard clause applicable in the event of serious disturbances to the market;
6. Notes that in this unsatisfactory situation, the transitional proposals from the Commission of the Communities do represent a step forward from the present arrangements;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the Presidents of the Parliaments of the Associated African States and Madagascar and of the Partner States of the East African Community and to the President of the East African Legislative Assembly.



Luxembourg
P.O.B. 1601